Iron ore reserve in the country

2021. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total reserve of iron ore in the country;

(b) the projected demand of iron ore for the next 20 years; and

(c) the export of iron in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) As per available information, out of total available resources of 25.25 billion tonnes, total iron ore reserves as on 1.4.2005 is estimated at 7.21 billion tonnes.

(b) The estimated demand of iron ore, by the year 2019-2020 is likely to be 190 million tonnes as per National Steel Policy, 2005.

(c) The quantity of iron ore exported during last three years given below:

(in million tonnes)

Year	Quantity
2003-04	51.49
2004-05	78.14
2005-06 (provisional)	89.27

Survey of mineral resources

2022. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Geological Survey of India has carried out surveys of mineral resources in the country;

(b) if so, whether it has identified those mineral resources which have fast deserving exploration, alternative to such minerals etc;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Minerals are categorized on the basis of their resource position *vis-a-vis* annual consumption such as scarce, deficient, adequate and abundant. The identification of substitutes/alternatives of scarce/ deficient minerals is beyond the purview of GSI.

The details of some of the scarce and deficient minerals estimated by GSI is as under:

(Resource in million tonnes unless otherwise stated)

Ore/Mineral	Resource established upto F.S. 2004-05
Copper ore	518.04
Lead-Zinc ore	532.05
Gold Ore	99.233
Platinum Group (PGE) ore	14.2
Cesium bearing Pegmatite	0.109
Molybdenum ore	5.62
Tungsten ore	53.68*
Tin	65,699 (Tonnes metal)*

*Resource position as on 2000

(d) Question does not arise.

Upgradation of marine and air-borne survey wings

2023. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Geological Survey of India has upgraded its marine and air-borne survey wings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the important achievements of these wings so far and the details of work to be done by upgraded wings in two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India has upgraded its Airborne Mineral Survey & Exploration [AMSE] Wing